GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4255
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
Unlawful Coal Mining
Tharoor Dr. Shashi

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central CoalfieldsLimited (CCL) has failed to control unlawfulcoal miningwithin its area of operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof includingthe measures taken by CCL to curb theunlawful excavation of coal;

(c) whether the Government has takenany action against the coal companies whichhave been employing children in coal minesas per recent reports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not,the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLEE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b): Central CoalfieldsLimited (CCL) has exercised full control over coal mining and there is no known unlawful coal mining within the area of operation of CCL. CCL has taken the following steps to ensure no unlawful activities-

i). Entries/ path leading to the abandoned/ discontinued mines is cut off by trench, fence wall to prevent entries of unauthorized person for indulging in illegal mining public including the outsiders are made aware by display on Boards, Hoardings and even by publication in local newspaper in Hindi that entry in the mine is unauthorized amounting to trespassing and carrying of illegal mining is dangerous.

ii). Exposed portion of coal seam in abandoned or discontinued opencast mines are covered either by dozing or by dumping of over burden.

iii). Wherever practicable, exposed portion of coal seam in discontinued OCPs is submerged in water. In some places, it is filled by dumping fly ash also.

iv). Cavities, pits, holes made for illegal mining are regularly filled/ dozed under the supervision of security personnel and State Police Personnel.

v). The task Force created at States and district level by State Govt. reviews the execution of the measures carried out with active involvement of the project/Area Management.

vi). Constant liaison and interaction is done by the officials of Project, Area and HQ CCL with State Authorities.

vii). Intensive patrolling / Surprise raids by CCL security team is being conducted . Sometimes raids have been carried out with the help of local police authorities.

(c)&(d): No children have been employed in the mines of Coal India Ltd.

***